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Form Approved OMB NO. 0704-0188

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1. REPORT	ORT DATE (DD-MM-YYYY) 2. REPORT TYPE				3. DATES COVERED (From - To)		
04-02-2016			Related Material -				
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER			
5					W911NF-13-1-0281		
					5b. GRANT NUMBER		
					5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER		
				106011			
6. AUTHORS				5d. PROJECT NUMBER			
Jerome E. Dobson					5e. TASK NUMBER		
				Se. TASK NUMBER			
					5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER		
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAMES AND ADDRESSES					8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER		
University of Kansas							
2385 Irving Hill Road							
Lawrence, KS 66044 -7552							
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS (ES)						SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S) RO	
U.S. Army Research Office P.O. Box 12211					11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)		
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2211					64437-LS-MRI.3		
12. DISTRIBUTION AVAILIBILITY STATEMENT							
Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.							
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES							
The views, opinions and/or findings contained in this report are those of the author(s) and should not contrued as an official Department of the Army position, policy or decision, unless so designated by other documentation.							
14. ABSTRACT							
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15. SUBJECT TERMS							
Minerva							
1.0000 1.000				15. NUME OF PAGES		19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON Jerome Dobson	
a. REPORT UU	UU STRACT	UU	UU		L	19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER	
						865-288-7346	

## **Report Title**

Visit to NGA Headquarter on September 11, 2015

## **ABSTRACT**

On Friday, September 11, 2015, Professor Jerry Dobson and Graduate Research Assistant Taylor Tappan visited NGA headquarters in Springfield Virginia. Col. (Ret.) Dean Bland organized the session which was well attended by administrators and analysts in Human Geography. Doug Batson, a long term intellectual leader in NGA's Human Geography programs was present in person. Brian Hagan, NGA's national geospatial intelligence officer for geography and cartography teleconferenced with us from his office in St. Louis for the entire presentation and discussion afterward. He listened intensely and spoke glowing praise afterward. He complimented Professor Dobson for his long term efforts through the American Geographical Society (especially Bowman Expeditions) and Oak Ridge National Laboratory (where Dobson worked for 26 years before moving to the University of Kansas).

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Due to pure coincidence, we were there on 9/11 and happened to walk into the awesome main concourse just as Robert Cardillo led the tribute and salute, and we happened to be standing a little in front and beneath him. It was a highly moving experience.

Dobson and Professor Peter Herlihy first met Dean Bland when visited KU back when he was a colonel at AFRICOM. When Dobson was at State, he and Lee Schwartz visited Bland in Stuttgart. Dobson and Bland regularly meet at the Minerva annual meeting, and those discussions led to this opportunity.